

N. YOSHITANI

Application No. 10/649,955

Response to Office Action dated July 6, 2007

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Figures 4-7 and 9 have been amended for consistency with changes made to the specification. No new matter is added.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet(s)
Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject patent application are respectfully requested.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner acknowledge receipt of all certified copies of the priority documents by checking box 12(a)(1) on the Office Action Summary Sheet.

A Substitute Specification is submitted herewith to address the disclosure informalities noted in the office action. No new matter is introduced by the Substitute Specification and the Examiner is invited to confirm that this is the case. The drawings have been amended for consistency with the amendments to the specification.

Claims 1-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Claims 1-11 have been amended to address the issues noted in the office action and withdrawal of the Section 112, second paragraph, rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as allegedly being made "obvious" by Tsutsui et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,602,910). Applicants traverse this rejection because Tsutusi et al. at least fails to disclose the control of the notification device as set forth in claim 1.

In particular, claim 1 describes that, in a state in which an incoming-call detector has detected a new incoming-call signal from a first line, when the status discriminator discriminates a call holding status for a second line, a controller controls a notification device so that an incoming call is notified by, at least, tone information. When the status discriminator discriminates an on-call status for the second line, the controller controls the notification device so that an incoming call is notified by, at least, visible information. The office action references the display 19 of Tsutsui et al. as corresponding to the claimed notification device. However, there is no description or suggestion in Tsutsui et al. of controlling the display to provide, inter alia, an incoming call notification as set forth in claim 1. For at least these reasons, claim 1 and its dependent claims 2-11 patentably distinguish over Tsutsui et al.

New claims 12-19 have been added. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims find support in the original disclosure and the Examiner is invited to independently confirm that this is the case.

Claim 12 is for a telephone control system, wherein if an incoming-call detector detects an incoming call signal on a second one of multiple communication lines and the status discriminator discriminates a call holding status for a first one of the communication lines, the controller controls the notification device to provide at least an aural incoming call notification. If the incoming-call detector detects an incoming call signal on the second one of the communication lines and the status discriminator discriminates an on-call status for the first one of the communication lines, the controller controls the notification device to provide at least a visual incoming call notification. Tsutsui et al. does not disclose or suggest these features and thus claim 12 and its dependent claims 13-16 patentably distinguish over this reference.


Claim 17 is for a telephone system, wherein if a master telephone set is engaged in a call over a first one of a plurality of communication lines and an incoming call detector detects an incoming call to the master telephone set on a second one of the communication lines, a notification device of the master telephone set provides at least a visual incoming call notification. If a call in which the master telephone set is engaged on a first one of the communication lines is on-hold and the incoming call detector detects an incoming call to the master telephone set on a second one of the communication lines, the notification device of the master telephone set provides at least an aural incoming notification. Tsutsui et al. does not disclose or suggest these features and thus claim 17 and its dependent claims 18-19 patentably distinguish over this reference.

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The pending claims patentably distinguish over the applied document and favorable office action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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